



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
MINISTRY OF RURAL
DEVELOPMENT AND FOOD
DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF VETERINARY SERVICES
ANIMAL HEALTH DIRECTORATE

BLUETONGUE SITUATION

in Greece

PRESENTATION AT THE SCoFCAH meeting of 11 -12 Jan 2011

- 1. Background (2009)**
- 2. Present situation (2010)**
- 3. Surveillance and Control measures
(2009-2010-2011)**

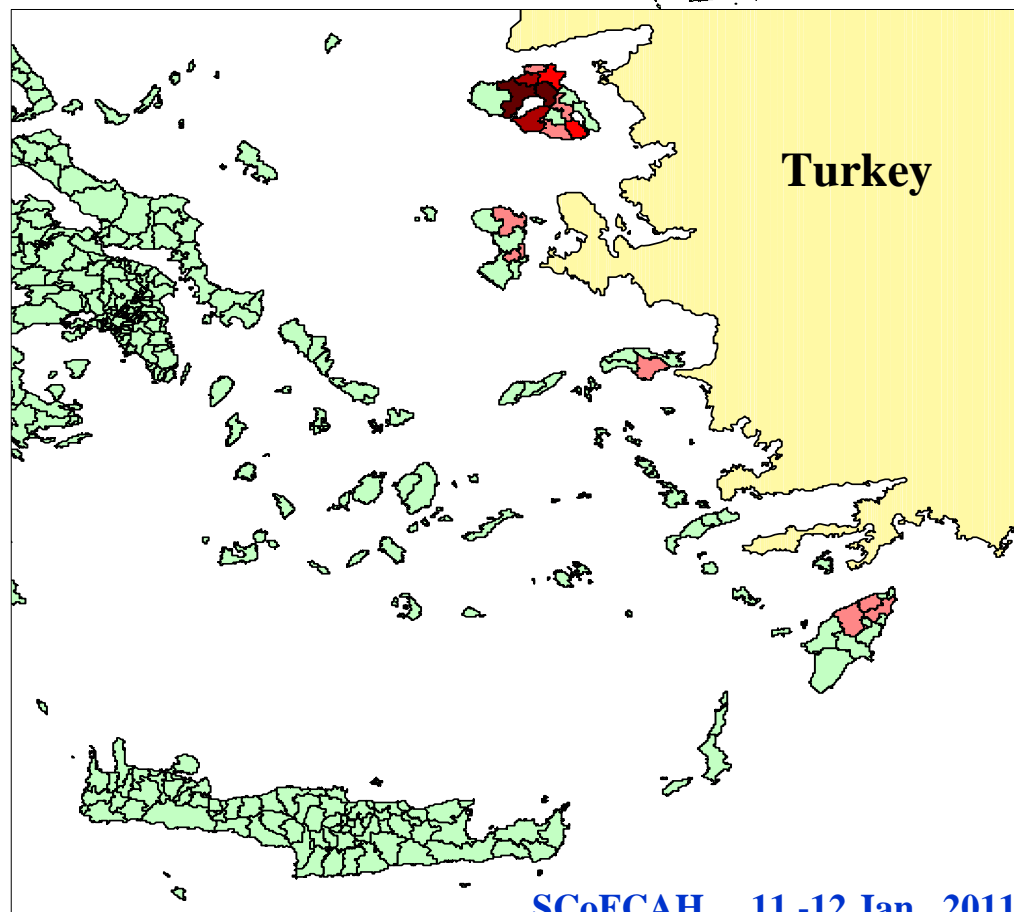
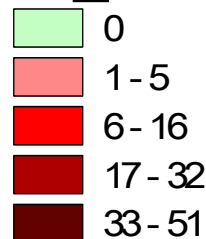
Bluetongue Situation in Greece - Background (2009)

Timeline of BT in 2009

- **March** : Seroconversion in Sentinel Bovines in Chios island
- **Sep – Dec**: Clinical outbreaks in Lesvos island
- **November**: Seroconversion in Sentinel Bovines in Rhodes island
- **December** : Seroconversion in Sentinel Bovines/serological findings in small ruminants in the island of Samos without clinical signs

Areas with BT outbreaks in 2009

No of outbreaks



Summary of 2009 BT outbreaks

Location	Number of outbreaks
Chios	4
Lesvos	179
Samos	3
Dodecanese (Rhodes)	5
Total	191

Clinical features

Clinical Disease **only in Lesvos island** (small ruminants).

In the rest of the islands where BT was detected, no clinical signs (sentinel bovines or serological findings in small ruminants)

BTV –type: predominantly **16**

However in **Lesvos island: 5 outbreaks** where **both BTV 16 and BTV 1** (weak signal) were detected by Real-time RT PCR.

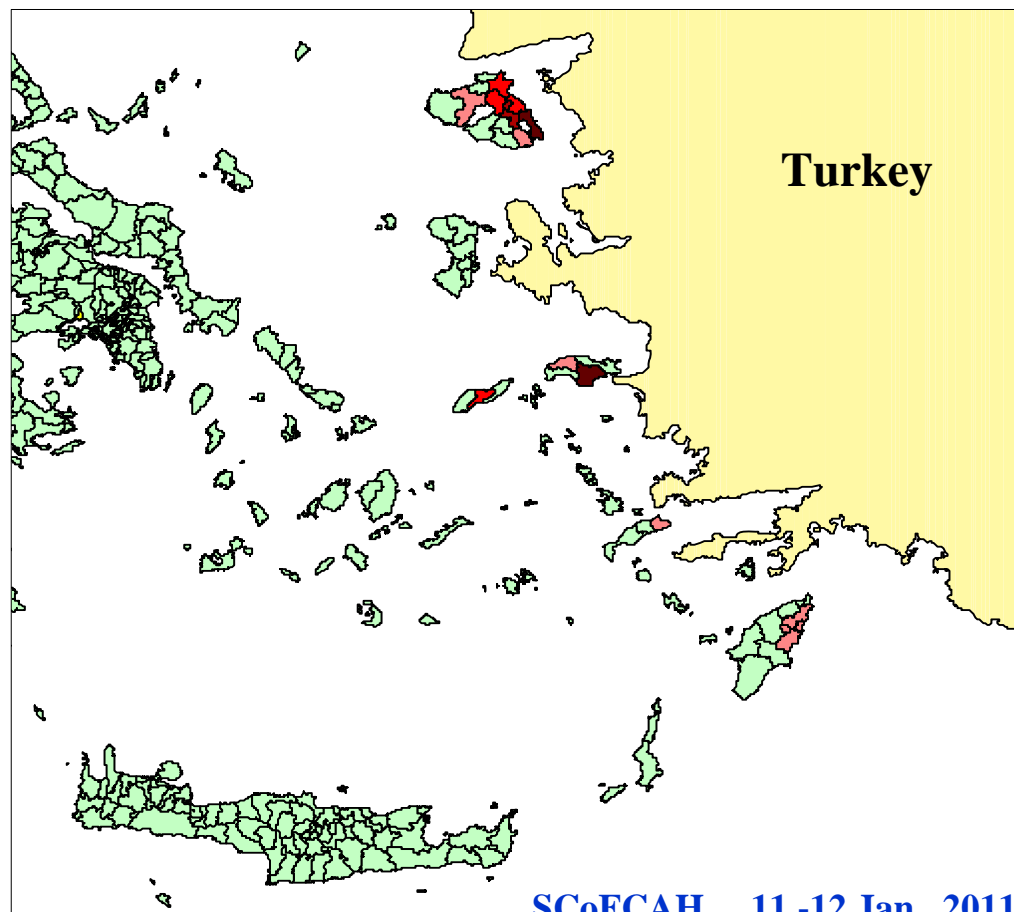
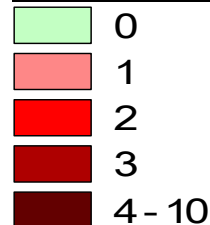
Bluetongue Situation in Greece - Present (2010)

Timeline of BT in 2010

- **Jan – March** : 1 clinical outbreak in Lesvos (early 2010), serological findings in small ruminants in Samos islands (without clinical signs)
- **March** : seroconversion in sentinel bovines / serological findings in small ruminants in Ikarria
- **March – Nov**: seroconversion in sentinel bovines / serological findings in small ruminants in Samos
- **Nov - Dec**: clinical outbreaks in Lesvos , Rhodes , Samos.
Seroconversion in sentinel bovines in Rhodes and Kos islands

Areas with BT outbreaks in 2010

No of outbreaks



Summary of 2010 BT outbreaks

Location	Number of outbreaks
Ikaria	2
Kos	1
Lesvos	19
Samos	11
Rhodes	3
Total	36

Clinical features

Mild clinical disease, mostly **in Lesvos island**, and to a much lesser extent in Samos (1 out of 11 outbreaks) and Rodos (1 out of 3 outbreaks).

In the rest of the islands where BT was detected (Kos-Ikaria) no clinical signs (sentinel bovines or serological findings in small ruminants)

BTV –type: 16 (sequencing in progress to compare with BTV-16 isolates from previous years)

Control Measures

No vaccination.

Restrictive measures in infected holdings, euthanasia-destruction only of animals with very heavy clinical signs that are unlikely to recover, epidemiological investigation of outbreaks.

Establishment of zones / maintenance of zones already in place [Lesvos island, Chios prefecture, Samos prefecture, Dodecanese prefecture (Rhodes, Kos, e.t.c.)]

Exit of small ruminants from the restricted areas to the rest of the country allowed only for immediate slaughter.

Surveillance Programme

Active surveillance

Network of sentinel bovines covering all restricted areas as well selected areas in the rest of the country (financial incentives for breeders that participate in the surveillance programme).

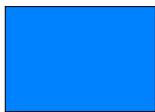
Network of vector surveillance (insect traps) in strategically selected prefectures.

Random testing of imported animals (intra-community trade).

Passive surveillance

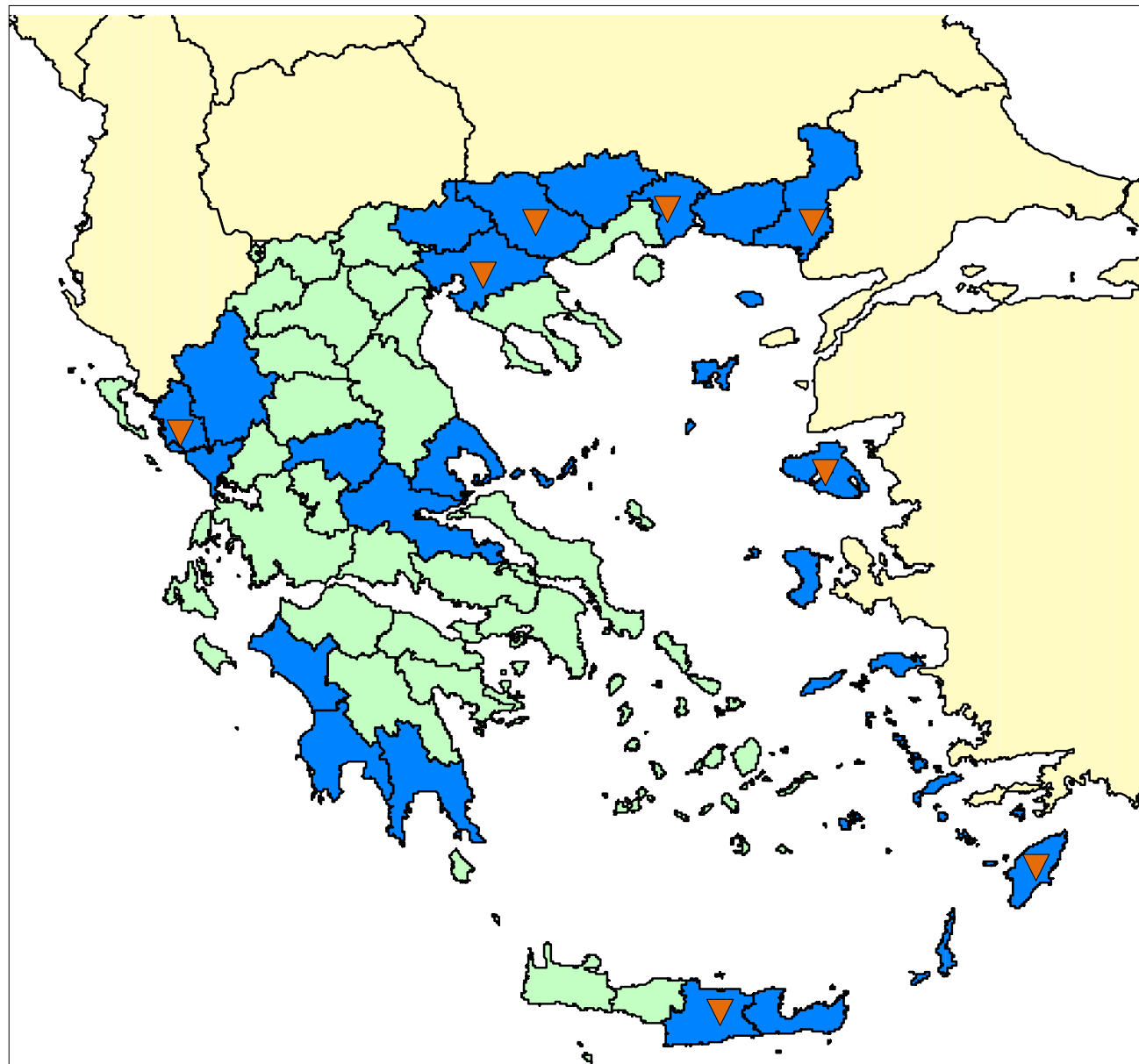
Investigation – Sampling of all suspect cases

Active Surveillance : Sentinels - vector surveillance

 Prefectures with bovine sentinel groups (10 groups of 5 animals or 20 groups of 7 animals in each prefecture)

2010: bovine sentinel samples examined at national level

 Location of vector trapping sites



Thank you for your
attention

HAPPY NEW YEAR !!!